



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Seres et al.

S.N.: 09/218308

A.U. : 2854

Filed: 12/22/98

Examiner: Nguyen

For: Protective Device for Printers

Box Fee

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Dear Sir:

The Applicant hereby requests that the outstanding Office Action be reconsidered
in view of the following remarks

Remarks

pl. Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 14 and 16 – 22 have been canceled. New claims 23 – 47 have
been added. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Previously, claims 1-4, and 8 - 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being
unpatentable over each of the patents to Frick and Otsubo.. The Office Action stated that:

"Each of the patents to Frick and Otsubo teaches a protective device which renders
obvious the structure as broadly claimed. Frick teaches a protective device 7 having a hood 8
covering a document feed path opening, and an access opening 11 that allows the document 12 to
be fed out as shown in Fig. 1. Otsubo teaches a protective device having a hood 1a which covers
the document feed path opening and an access opening 7 for providing access to the document 5
which is just printed from a print device as shown in Figs. 1-7 and 9 of Otsubo. *Each of the*
patents to Frick and Otsubo fail to clearly teach the protective device airborne particles.
However one of ordinary skill in the art would have used the protective device which reduces
noise of Frick or Otsubo (soundproof protective device) for protecting dispensing devices or
printers from airborne particles or dust or environmental contamination. With respect to claims 3